

ag
See to Bundy K Cens
X Para 2 26. 26. ROSTOW
X Ag 7

Rostow Heads Soul-Searching by Strategists

Basic Security Policies Getting Review

19 X ag 1

Newspaper Enterprise Assn.
 Basic U.S. National Security Council foreign and national defense policy papers are undergoing review with considerable soul-searching by Kennedy administration top strategists.

This exercise has been under way for six months and there is no terminal date in sight yet. The project is in charge of Walt W. Rostow, counselor and chairman of the State Department's policy planning council.

It involves all agencies taking part in National Security Council affairs under Presidential Assistant McGeorge Bundy, including the Departments of State, Defense and Treasury, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Information Service and Office for Emergency Planning.

The new paper is still in draft form, the low-level "Indians" not having submitted it to the "Chiefs," meaning the President and Cabinet members in NSC, for their approval.

Preparation of the new strategy paper is described as a routine operation. Some efforts to sensationalize it as a new, top secret policy are characterized as exaggerations.

There has been an annual and sometimes more frequent review of NSC policy documents ever since the agency was created by the National Security Act of 1947. Under both Presidents Truman and Eisenhower it was found necessary to make revisions as world conditions changed and as new weapons were developed.

Big changes came with Russia's first nuclear explosion, the Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine, Korean War, development of the hydrogen bomb and guided mis-

siles, the 1950 Communist Manifesto on world, limited and local wars of liberation.

The current review is primarily a matter of consolidating and codifying the many changes of policy which have been made by the Kennedy administration in its 18 months in office.

Pulling the philosophy of these texts into one document makes it a working paper for people who must apply foreign policy in their day-to-day operations.

At the same time, codification is revealing some conflicts and differences in emphasis of past policy declarations. No effort is being made to negotiate these differences out by compromise language. But the apparent inconsis-

encies to present a number of unresolved problems which will require solution for applying administration policy to future operations.

How far down the bureaucratic ladder the paper will be circulated has not yet been decided. It will be of obvious use to cabinet secretaries, administrators and policy planners in State and the Pentagon, Armed Forces theater commanders and ambassadors.

It will make a big book, perhaps too big a book for easy use. Whether it will be made public has not been decided, though there is said to be nothing new in it. Past practice has been that all National Security Council papers are classified "top secret."